

### TO IMPROVE THE POTATO CROP

- Use pure standard varieties for seed.
- Select seed of variety type and free from disease.
- Treat seed potatoes, to control and eradicate disease.
- Use proper cultural methods; practice rotation.
- Grade for market.
- Store in disinfected cellars with proper ventilation and temperature.

### FOR TREATING SEED POTATOES

The Department of Agricultural Botany

recommends:

- One pint of formalin in 30 gallons of water. Soak potatoes for full two hours; or
- Four ounces of corrosive sublimate in 30 gallons of water. Soak potatoes for full one and one-half hours.

## DO "YOUR BIT" BY TILLING LAND

### Box Butte County Offers Opportunity to Those Who Wish to Contribute to Country Food Supply

The man who raises something to eat, is rendering as proud a service to his country as is the man who stands behind a gun. Somebody has to raise everything that the soldier, the civilian, or you yourself, eat. The need of the present hour, the present year, and very likely for many years to come, is food—food for man or beast, but especially food for human consumption.

The farmer, therefore, is strictly entitled to feel that he is doing a patriotic service when he utilizes every available acre of land in a supreme effort to raise the largest and the best crops that lie within his power to produce. Small crops this year, when avoidable, should carry the stigma of neglect of patriotic duty.

It is a splendid thing to be filled with patriotism in a time of national crisis, to feel the surge in one's breast of an unutterable love for one's country; but it is a much finer thing to be able to express that feeling in a way that will do the most good. Others are hithertoishrdud good. For those who are those to go and fight, the way is already plain. Others are assigned to posts in official or public work of various kinds. But the great mass of the people, eager and ready to do what they could, for a time felt that there was nothing definite for them to do. Now, however, within the last few weeks, the thing they can do has become apparent, and the gigantic magnitude and importance of their task can not be overestimated. The continuance of general prosperity is important, but sinks into oblivion in comparison with this. Almost everything else is far outdistanced in urgency by the imperative and immediate need of tilling of the soil and the production of unprecedented crops of every kind. Anything and everything which can be grown in any part of these United States should be raised in this country from now on. Foremost, of course, comes the need for anything that can be included under the head of foodstuffs.

Every pound of potatoes for instance, that is raised here in Box Butte county, means something definitely beneficial to the welfare of our country. Farmers, in particular, have a significant example set before them by the President himself, according to a pleasant current rumor, which ought to be true if it isn't that even a part of the beautiful White House grounds at Washington is to be utilized for growing vegetables. Men living out in this untrammeled middle west, with acres of idle land stretching away in every direction to the very horizon, would do well to get into line, and heed the nation's call for food, and more food, and do their share toward its production.

The little vegetable plots in the back or side yards, amount to something; but what shall we say when we consider the enormous acreage, the ten and hundreds of thousands of acres within the boundaries of Box Butte county alone, that never have seen even the breaking plow, and which can and should be planted in potatoes and other profitable crops. One of the largest market demands is for potatoes, even at the prevailing price at this time of \$3.00 per bushel. Now, Box Butte county is pre-eminently a potato growing country. It is making itself famous now for its large yield of fine potatoes as can be grown anywhere, and in another few years the name of Box Butte county, Nebraska, should become synonymous with the best potatoes on the market. About as much money is being made in this county in potatoes as in practically everything else combined. Potato growers are bound to make a small fortune in this coming season's crop alone.

### NOW IS THE TIME

Right now is the time to purchase land here in Box Butte county, before the rest of this part of the country really wakes up to the wonderful capacities of this soil, and the large fortunes lying here ready to be turned up by the plow and the potato digger. Land here is cheap now, but it won't be for very long. Those who buy now will be able to make a large profit on the land alone in another year or so. Land in Box Butte county, bought now, will prove one of the very best investments a man can make.

Those who prefer to grow other things here than potatoes, can do so and be very successful. There is

money to be made in Box Butte county in raising every kind of live stock. One need only consider the present prices of beef, pork, or mutton, to realize what the future will be for the stockman who makes his start here in time. Hay, alfalfa, corn, oats, wheat, every kind of grain and every variety of vegetable, have been away up in price all winter, and will remain so. In fact, there is no place to-day where more money is to be made than on the farm. Nowhere else will the demand remain constantly ahead of the supply, as with all the things that are raised on the farm.

While the call is made everywhere to-day for the citizen of this country to "do his bit" in some way or other, the soldier on the battle front, and the farmer on his own land,—it may be pointed out that every man who buys land, or buys more land, and raises crops for the market is not only doing "his bit" satisfactorily from the standpoint of the nation's welfare, but at a very large money profit to himself. This aspect of the case need not detract in any way from its patriotic side, but should augment it. A prosperous citizen is worth more to his country than is a pauper citizen.

**Quick Fortunes in Growing Potatoes**  
To-day there are more wonderful opportunities to make money than ever before in our history. Anything in the way of food occupies first place among these; and of all the food crops, the potato is the very best to tie to.

Why? Because it requires a minimum amount of capital. It takes much less land to grow potatoes than it does to raise live stock, for instance. Because it gives quick returns. You can turn your money over quickly with potatoes.

Because it is a crop that does not require the constant attention that some other things do. Given the right kind of soil, which Box Butte county offers in abundance, and the proper climatic conditions also to be found here, and the potato plant can very nearly look after itself, as compared to some other crops.

Because a potato crop chews a large profit over expenses. Potato growers who do business on a large scale, expect in these days to make a small fortune in a single growing season—and they do.

### \$3.00 A Bushel

Potatoes are, at this present writing, selling at \$3.00 a bushel, and no one knows how much higher the price will go. One thing is certain, however, that it will remain high from now on. Whether the war ends today, next year, or ten years from now, will make no difference. The demand for potatoes in this country alone will increase yearly. And half of Europe, and possibly later on even other countries—for no one can safely predict how many nations will be able to keep out of this war—will call on us to supply them with potatoes and other staple foods. It will be years and years after the close of the war, before the nations that participate in it will be in a position to supply a very large production of their own food.

Men who already own some land in this county, should take advantage of this present opportunity, and the present emergency in our nation's affairs, and buy more land. Those who do not already own land in Box Butte county, should look the county over, and purchase as large tracts as they can afford, while prices are still low and before someone else gets in ahead of them. Fathers now have a splendid opportunity to set their sons up in a paying business in growing potatoes. It is a good county, whatever way you look at it, and as a potato country, it is without a superior anywhere. If you want to work for Uncle Sam, and for yourself, too, you can't do better than to buy land in Box Butte county, and raise potatoes. It is a fine kind of business—and there is money in it.

### RESULTS OF THE 1916 POTATO DEMONSTRATIONS

As a result of the Box Butte Farmers' Association's project for improving the potato crop in Box Butte county, 118 farmers treated part or all of their seed potatoes. The total acreage treated was about 1,973 acres. This does not include farms that as a result of the work, exercised care in seed selection, cultural methods, grading, etc. No case has yet been reported where the quality or the yield was not better for the treated than for the untreated potatoes. Potato demonstrations on five farms, showed an average gain in yield of treated over untreated seed potatoes of 10.3 bushels per acre. At the present price of potatoes, \$2 per bushel, this would be equivalent to \$20.60 more per acre. Granting that the average potato grower who

treated his potatoes in 1916 was less careful than method used in demonstration, to the extent of thirty per cent, in spite of the fact that the methods used in the demonstrations were the most practical, then the benefit to the potato growers who treated potatoes would average about eight bushels per acre. Eight bushels per acre at the present market price means \$24.00 per acre greater returns. On 1,793 acres the increased returns would mean \$43,032.00. In every case where the potatoes were treated, the dealers paid five to ten cents more per bushel. Five cents per bushel on average yield of seventy bushels would mean \$3.50 per acre. This would make a total gain by treatment and selection of \$27.50 per acre. Figuring on a basis of 6,000 acres, estimated by County Agent Seidell as the potato acreage in this county, it would mean that treated potatoes would to-day produce a gain of \$165,000 over the yield from untreated potatoes, a sum sufficient to pay Box Butte county's taxes.

## FORTUNES MADE IN BOX BUTTE

### Statistics for 1916 crop of potatoes with Other Interesting Figures on the County

As a potato growing section in particular, Western Nebraska is without a superior. Box Butte county, situated in the center of the most opulent potato growing region in the whole world, produced last year 742,200 bushels, which is about one-eighth of the total of nearly 6,000,000 bushels raised in the entire state. No other single county in the state had so large a potato acreage, or received so large an average price for its crop. At the average price for the season in this section, \$1.20 per bushel, Box Butte county potato growers received last year an estimated grand total of \$920,640—almost one million dollars, for the same acreage this year, with the increase in the price of potatoes to \$3.00 a bushel, would mean between two and three million dollars.

### BOX BUTTE COUNTY'S SHOW-ING FOR LAST YEAR 6,000 Acres of Potatoes in Box Butte County

A year ago this spring the assessor's report showed a potato acreage in this county of 5,577 acres, which, however, was somewhat under the actual number, as many growers failed to report and others planted much more than they had intended. County Agent Seidell named 6,000 acres as a very conservative estimate.

The Nebraska State Board of Agriculture, in their bulletin No. 210, based their figures on the reports of the state assessors, hence cite an acreage of 5,577. But even on this showing Box Butte county is proved to be the greatest potato county in Nebraska.

### Wonderful opportunities here for men with a little money and plenty of energy and ambition 1,237 carloads of potatoes in this county last year

To put it in terms of carloads: figuring the total Box Butte county acreage at 6,000, and the average as given by the bulletin, of 123.7 bushels an acre, the total would read 742,200 bushels, which is somewhere around the correct amount. Estimating 600 bushels to the car, the county raised a total of 1,237 carloads of potatoes last year. But to be even ultra conservative, and figure the yield at 80 bushels to the acre, the county would then have produced around 1,146 carloads of potatoes. It is estimated that in the neighborhood of 800 carloads were shipped out; the remainder being saved for home consumption and for seed.

It is true that a few other counties in Nebraska showed a greater percentage in yield, than did Box Butte, but these were where the acreage was small and the crop more or less hand raised and in the irrigated district. Kimball county, for instance, showed an average of 222.5 bushels of potatoes to the acre, but in that entire county only 646 acres were produced. When it is considered that this one crop alone brought to the farmers of Box Butte county almost a million dollars last year, in one single year, it is safe to say that this section has found the most profitable crop for this particular soil and climate.

### Big Future for Potatoes

The prices which potatoes are sure to bring in the future right along should make more men turn their land over to potatoes—and even then there will not be enough potatoes to supply the demand next winter, except at extremely high prices. Potatoes at even more than \$3.00 a bushel, may be no idle dream; for we have not only our own country to supply, but half of Europe as well, and the demand will exist not merely during the present war, but indefinitely if not permanently.

### Great General Prosperity Here

The opportunities in Box Butte county are not to be excelled anywhere in the United States today. They are waiting here for energetic men to cash in on them.

The 1917 crop of potatoes in this section of Nebraska will mean big money for the growers. Just how much, to a dollar, was made in potatoes last year, only the growers themselves could say; and they smilingly refuse to name exact figures, but point significantly to the fact that they are planning this year to have every available acre planted in potatoes. Farmer after farmer has found himself able to pay off any indebtedness, to buy more land, to purchase comforts and luxuries for himself and his family. Last year there were 353 automobiles in Box Butte county. There are more than that number now. In no part of the United States do the people living on farms possess a larger amount of this world's goods than Box Butte farmers do. Western Nebraska farm-

ers are becoming known throughout the entire middle west for the money they are able to spend on luxuries which heretofore were beyond their reach. The farmer in Box Butte county is not alone in his prosperity. Everyone with whom he comes in contact shares in it. This whole section of the state is feeling this increased prosperity; the local banks feel it; the railroads and business houses are thoroughly cognizant of it. This large and general prosperity takes on a pointed meaning and interest when it is remembered that a large proportion of these men are making their larger wealth by the growing of potatoes.

### Federal Government Helped

Everyone is prospering because of the Box Butte county potato. And the farmer is now in a position to get his price largely because of the assistance now being rendered by the government at Washington in keeping the people in western Nebraska informed about the potato market. This valuable service was rendered here by the government last year, and it will be continued.

### Plenty of Room for All

Box Butte county has a total of 634,098 acres within its boundaries; of which 50,703 acres are improved land, and 583,395 acres are unimproved. The state bulletin before last year showed that there were last year 339 farm owners and 132 farm tenants in the county; that the farms and ranches in this county total 337,775 acres, of which 49,188 were under cultivation, and 142,871 uncultivated. 650 acres were under irrigation.

When it is considered that fortunes can be made, and are being made, in one single growing season in potatoes, in this county, it is evident that much of the land now lying idle, and some proportion at least of the land at present given over to the cattle industry, will sooner or later be cut up into smaller tracts and devoted almost solely to potato raising, with a large remuneration for the men who are foresighted and energetic enough to be among the first to get into the business on a large scale. The opportunity is here for any man who will take advantage of it. The chances here to make money, and big money, would seem almost incredible to an easterner unacquainted with the actual conditions to be found here. No quicker, safer, and surer way could be found by which a man with even limited capital could make a small fortune for himself in a few years, or even in a single growing season in many instances.

### General Resources of Box Butte County

While Box Butte county is pre-eminently a potato country and is growing daily in fame as such, it is all that and much more besides. It is naturally a first-class live stock country. The cheaper pasture land and rough feed makes this possible. Grain and other products also play a very important part in its general wealth.

The following prices, quoted from the bulletin before referred to were last year's prices, and they have doubled and trebled since that time. Moreover, it should be borne in mind that they were based on extremely conservative estimates of general averages, and do not at all adequately represent the real market valuation for Box Butte county.

### Horses and Mules

According to the assessor's report of last year there were 3,088 horses in the county, which, basing the estimate on the state's figures as an average, would have a value of \$109 each, or a total of \$808,800; also 156 mules, with an estimated value of \$105, or a total of \$16,380.

### Cattle Worth Large Sum

The bulletin gave an average value of \$60 to the milk cows throughout the state, and Box Butte county has over 2,000 of them, worth \$137,460; and nearly 20,000 other cattle, worth, according to the state's estimate of \$40 each, a total of almost \$800,000.

### Hogs

The county had last year 2,551 hogs, worth \$51,020.

### Sheep

There have been few sheep raised in this county, there being only 59 in the entire county last year, worth \$413.

### Poultry

Poultry to the number of more than 26,000 were reported to the assessor.

### Corn a Fine Showing

Corn last year averaged 24 bushels to the acre. It is estimated that over 11,000 acres were planted, and a total of 267,672 bushels harvested, which at an average of 60 cents a bushel would mean \$160,603 that went into the pockets of Box Butte county corn growers last year, in spite of the fact that western Nebraska is not regarded as belonging to the great corn belt.

### Grain is Prolific

Box Butte county raised last year 113,729 bushels of winter and spring wheat, valued at \$1.20 a bushel, making a total of \$136,475. Ten thousand and nine acres of oats brought a total of 247,222 bushels, worth \$86,528. The rye crop was valued at \$50,728, for the 56,364 bushels raised last year. The 1,320 acres of barley yielded an average of 28 bushels to the acre, and at a valuation of 60 cents a bushel, made a total of \$22,176. The county raised 467 acres of speltz, 1,172 cres of millet, and 318 acres of Hungarian sorghum.

### Alfalfa and Wild Hay

Six thousand tons of alfalfa were cut in this county last year, which at \$7 a ton made \$42,000. The wild hay crop totaled 4,566 tons, at \$6 a ton, was worth \$27,402.

### Other Crops

There were 138 acres planted to flax, 3 acres to onions, 1 acre to popcorn, 29 acres to kafir corn, and 54 acres to miscellaneous crops.

### Incubators and Cream Separators

The county has something more than 21 incubators and brooders and 236 cream separators.

### County Worth Millions

The total estimated valuation of the horses, mules, cattle and hogs in Box Butte county last year comes to

\$1,668,120. The total value of the corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, alfalfa, wild hay and potato crops amounted to \$1,546,352. This makes a grand total of \$3,214,472. In addition to this, as expressing some idea of the entire wealth of the county, one must take into consideration the large sum of \$2,211,385 represented in improvements on lands in the county.

Even at these prices, which are very much lower than present prices, this is a wonderful showing for Box Butte county. There is prosperity here—there can be no question about that. A fine opening to make money, and make it quickly, too, lies here for the man with a little capital and plenty of push, for the man who will work and stick to his work. This would be true at any time, but it is particularly and strikingly so just now when anything in the line of foodstuffs is at the very top notch in price, and likely to remain so indefinitely. The prices of everything in the way of food have been steadily rising for the past ten years; and we are likely never again to know anything but good returns for everything that can be raised on the farm.

All this applies with particular force to the potato crop. There is not only a growing need of potatoes in this country at this time, but this demand will remain steady and continuous. And nowhere on this entire globe can the potato that is grown in the friendly soil of Box Butte county be excelled—and in very few places can it be equaled. It is, in fact, a crop which is staple, extremely profitable, and particularly adapted to just the kind of soil and climate to be found in Box Butte county.

### ADDITIONAL LOCALS

United States Commissioner Geo. C. Cronkleton, of Bayard, was an Alliance business visitor the latter part of the week.

Michael Nolan and Orville Davenport left Alliance Sunday night bound for St. Louis, Mo. They went to St. Louis to take an examination to qualify for service with the mosquito fleet doing coast patrol duty. Both have been students at the University of Nebraska, and because of their enlistment will receive school credit.

Dr. W. S. Howard, for the past year Burlington relief physician, left Alliance Saturday night for Fort Riley. He is no longer "Doctor" Howard. His correct title now is "Lieutenant" Howard, for he has enlisted in the medical reserve corps and has been called into active service beginning tomorrow, June 1. He stated that he intended visiting with his parents before going into service.

Buy your office supplies at The Herald office. Big, new, fresh stock of typewriter ribbons and carbon paper—complete selection. Agency for Irving-Pitt Loose Leaf filing devices. Tell us your wants. We will supply you.

Mrs. J. W. Thomas expects to leave Friday to make her home at Lincoln. John W. Thomas, of The Herald, has been at Lincoln since the first of the month, since receiving his appointment there as deputy state land commissioner.

John McDonald is installing a complete system of fire-fighting apparatus in his apartment house—the Flora.

Miss Spaulding, the first woman missionary to the Philippine Islands, now on a tour of the United States, filled the pulpit Sunday morning at the Methodist church. A collection was taken up amounting to fifty-six dollars.

The First State Bank of Alliance reports the sale of over \$2,000 worth of Liberty bonds. The announcement in this issue of The Herald regarding the purchasing of Liberty bonds, made by the First National and First State Bank of Alliance and the First State Bank of Hemingford, is interesting and should be heeded by Herald readers.

The Potash Products Company of Hoffman have shown the spirit of helpfulness by publishing in The Herald this week a page advertisement for the Alliance chapter of the Red Cross. You should read this advertisement and heed it by giving your aid to this deserving organization.

The Herald office has been the busiest place in Alliance this week—with apologies to the war-horse inspection sale, the stores which are conducting special sales and the usual busy merchants. Twenty-four pages in three sections makes an interesting paper. Read it through. If you are not a subscriber, get on the list. It gets better every issue.

New officers elected in I. O. O. F. lodge No. 168 at the meeting Tuesday evening were: T. G. Waddell, P. G.; James Kennedy, N. G.; F. W. Hicks, V. G.; E. M. Martin, secretary. The members of the lodge are planning on purchasing a building for a home and considerable interest is being taken in the project.

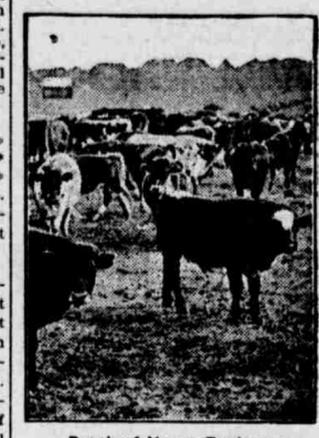
# HORSES, PIGS and CATTLE

## RAISING STEERS FOR MARKET

Feeder of Seventeen Years' Experience Says Best Grades Are Always in Good Demand.

Does it pay to raise purebred steers for the market? Some say yes, while others answer in the negative. But an Iowa man says it pays to get a good start if a feeder intends to make a good finish of the feeding experiment.

This feeder, who was recently on the market with stock, went on record in boosting purebred cattle for feeding purposes, as his 17 years of experience that the good grades are always wanted, and are the largest money-makers in the end. The affirmative side of the



Bunch of Young Feeders.

question has a strong booster in this gentleman, who has been practicing what he preaches for many years past.

Each year he has been in the habit of feeding a bunch of purebred baby heaves for the summer market, and each time has been successful in getting out on the venture. At his farm he maintains a drove of Hereford cattle and aside from the regular breeding business, he raises a drove of steers for the killers each year.

Many feeders think that purebreds are for breeding and most anything will do for the killers, but cases of this sort argue well for cattle of good blood to be finished for the market.

The feeder who recently made these remarks is emphatic in saying that it pays to raise purebreds for feeding purposes, and his advice to young men just getting into the live-stock business is to get a start on a purebred herd as soon as possible. A good start shortens the road to a successful ending in a business of this sort.

## FLEECED LAMBS MAKE GAINS

Old Idea Regarding Recuperation Sustained by Test at Nebraska State Experiment Station.

The old idea that a shorn lamb will regain in a week or ten days the weight of the wool removed from it at shearing time was vindicated recently in an experiment at the Nebraska state experiment station. Five lots of 12 lambs each were used in the experiment, each lot fed a little differently. As the lambs were too heavy to hold for the experiment, there was an average loss of five cents per animal, but the fact that the lambs did especially well after the fleece was removed proved the old theory. The daily gain was .51 of a pound.

## PROPER SHELTER FOR LAMBS

Animals Fed in Well-Ventilated Barn Make Same Gains as Those Kept in Open Sheds.

In a series of tests in feeding western lambs, the Indiana experiment station found that lambs fed in a well-ventilated barn at the same amount of feed and made the same gain in weight as those fed in an open shed.

The profit per lamb was 94 cents per head in a barn, as compared with \$1.04 per head in an open shed.

Although feed was high in price, the margin in value of feeding and fat lambs was sufficient to insure a satisfactory profit on the operation.

## FERTILITY LOSS IN PASTURES

Steady Drain of Phosphorus From Land Where Sheep Are Grazed Is Seen by Experts.

(By DR. CHARLES E. THORNE, Ohio Experiment Station.) Even when permanent pastures are grazed by so perfect a manure producer as the sheep, it is evident that in the bones of the young stock grown upon it and sent to market there must be a steady drain of phosphorus and lime, which must ultimately become manifest in reduced production, and experience has shown that the use of phosphate fertilizers upon such pastures produces a marked increase in the production of grass.

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